[Mr. M. Krishnan Nayar] [7th February 1924

relatives murdered that rich man and the culprit is not found out, is it fair to hang all the relatives who profit by his death because you have not been able to detect the one among them who committed the crime? It is something like the recommendation that was made by some persons with reference to the University Examination where, because one of the boys who stole the question paper was not found out, all the students who appeared for the examination were punished. I therefore say that this provision is extremely objectionable and should be deleted from the Bill.

"There is another chapter dealing with water-courses. In that chapter it is stated that owners of lands can apply to the Irrigation Officer to construct at their own expense any water-course which they desire, and the Collector will render any help that is necessary in acquiring lands for the purpose of constructing such water-courses."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"If the hon. Member is going to finish in a minute or two, we shall gladly hear him."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I shall continue after lunch."

The House adjourned for lunch at 1-34 p.m.

After lunch, 2-30 p.m.

VIII

ALLOTMENT OF DAYS FOR NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I have to inform the House that in addition to the six days already allotted for the transaction of non-official business, His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to allot one more day for non-official business and that naturally will be to-morrow, Friday, provided that by then the Government business has come to an end. The first 15 Resolutions which have obtained priority by ballot and of which hon. Members have received notice, will accordingly be placed on the agenda paper for to-morrow in addition to questions and answers. I may remind hon. Members that the result of the ballot held on 18th January 1924 holds good only for 30 days and that for any meeting after 18th February 1924, at which non-official business is permitted, fresh notice will have to be given in respect of motions on matters of general public interest even though they were included in the last ballot.

"Hon. Members who have evinced considerable anxiety to devote at least one day to non-official business at the present meeting will, I hope, naturally desire to co-operate with the hon. the Law Member in charge of the Irrigation Bill and bring the discussion on it to a close, as far as possible, to-day, so that we may have some time for resuming the discussion of the motion which stands in the name of the hon. Member, Mr. Peddiraju. In order to arrive at this result and at the same time to enable a large number of hon. Members to participate in the discussion before it is brought to a close, I propose to enforce the time limit which will be 10 minutes for each speech."

VII.—THE MADRAS IRRIGATION BILL—*cont.*

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"When we rose for lunch I was dealing with the provisions of chapter IV I think that some portions of this chapter contain provisions which are very hard. In this connexion, I may say that I should be very sorry if I were understood to take objection against the general principles of the Bill.